How could I, the chieftain of a small State, have done so, when 648*
the emperor of Annam found the undertaking beyond his strength?" 175*

Minh-Mang scorned to answer this impertinent reply and contented himself with having the accused man executed with great pomp. He even granted him magnificent funeral rites. Chao-Noi's family had their lives spared, and his children remained in Hue for five years and were then exiled to Hatinh.

The kingdom of Xieng-Khouang had the same fate /179/ as /635/
that of Vientiane, and was suppressed. It was annexed to Annam and became a prefecture of the empire, divided into eight huyen, under the name of Tran-Ninh-Phu-Tam-Vien. A Quan-Phu was placed over it and settled at Muong-Kham with a garrison of five hundred soldiers (1).

1. Cf. Captain de Pelacot, op. cit. /"Le Tran-Ninh historique." Revue indochinoise, Hanoi, 1896./

II. -- LUANG-PRABANG

KING-KITSARATH, KING 1707-1726.

King-Kitsarath and Intha-Som, who had long been united in 643*
misfortune and in their stubborn struggle against Thao-Nong and 175*
Ong-Hue (2), fell out shortly after their common victory.

2. See above, p. 133.

Revolt of Intha-Som. Jealous of his brother's authority and 669
discontent with the limited role which he was henceforth to play, 175*
Intha-Som intrigued against King-Kitsarath and commissioned Ong-Ek, the prince of Tran-Ninh and his "inseparable friend" (3), to

3. Ong-Ek was, according to certain chronicles, the father-in-law of Ong-Hue.

assemble troops secretly. A small army was formed of highly disparate elements recruited in Muong-Ou, in /180/ Dien-Bien-Phu and even in Burma and Yunnan. Then when he thought himself ready for action Intha-Som took charge of the operations and entered into open revolt against his brother.

King-Kitsarath had to undertake a veritable expedition. The

"The story of Auguste Pavie should be placed in the hands of 000
our youth. It is a magnificent lesson in itself. To the ambitious it shows how far a desire /338/ to learn combined with the passion for action can lead; to patriots how one can serve one's country; and to all how an ardent soul can ennoble the most humble tasks and, springing from the humblest origins, can rise to the most honored and most envied posts" (1).

1. Quoted by Colonel Friquegnon. Cf. Bulletin de l'Asie francaise, November-December 1925, No. 236, p. 356.

Final organization (1895-1899). The administrative organiza- 631
tion of the new possession had only been sketched out by Pavie dur- 642
ing his hasty descent of the Mekong. It was taken up and completed by Superior Resident Boulloche, who was sent out on a mission in May 1895. Laos was first divided into two territories or commands:

1. Upper Laos, with its capital at Luang-Prabang, including all the Muongs of the left bank situated between Yunnan, the British Shan States, Tonkin, Annam and Cammon exclusively, with the exception of the cantons of the Black River and a large part of the Houa-Phans; the first of these latter were attached to Tonkin and the second to the province of Thanh-Hoa (Annam);

2. Lower Laos, with its capital at Khong, formed of all the regions which had formerly been dependencies of the old /339/ kingdom of Vientiane and which were contained between the Annamitic Chain and the Mekong from Cammon to Cambodia.

A superior commandant was placed at the head of each of these 624
divisions, who was directly responsible to the governor general of 635
Indo-China. Each command was then subdivided into provinces or "commissionerships" (six for Upper Laos, seven for Lower Laos), each formed of a group of several muongs and headed by "government commissioners" who were then given (except in Luang-Prabang) the most varied duties and the most absolute initiative -- general administration, police, taxes, public works, justice, public educa- /647/
tion and even, in most cases, medical help.

In 1899 the two circumscriptions were united under the authority 642
of a superior resident (1) with his seat in Savannakhet (shortly there-

1. Cf. decree of the governor general of February 6 and decree of the President of the Republic of April 19,

after in Vientiane), and unified Laos took its place in the Franco-

and, even as they retain their smiling native good nature, they are becoming increasingly adapted with each passing day to the rude necessities of modern existence in the hectic struggle between individuals and peoples. 643* 178

Nearly identical results have been achieved in the other parts of Laos where /354/ the influence of our administrators is exercised in a more direct manner, even though it is still usually based on the ascendancy which the local mandarins have retained over the populace.

Annexation of the territory of Bassac (1905). It was thus that the territory of Bassac on the right bank, which was in full disorder when it was returned to France, was pacified by the Laotian "governor" whom we appointed there. Annexed in January 1905 to the province of Ban-Mouang, this territory had been abandoned in the previous year by the oupahat Boua-Laphan, who was the successor of King Kham-Souk (1) and who had taken refuge at Ban-Toung- 635 175*

1. See above, p. 328.

Loung in the Siamese district of Oubone. In a most loyal manner Chao-Nhouy, one of Kham-Souk's sons, offered us his services and took an oath of fidelity before Superior Resident Mahe on October 14, 1905. He was named governor of the region, and since then has not ceased to give the French administration the benefit of his influence and his devotion (2).

2. The "delegation" which replaced the commercial agency in Bassac was discontinued in 1908 and the capital of the circumscription, which took the name of province of Bassac, *was transferred from Ban-Mouang to Pakse.*

/355/ The Khas of Lower Laos. The Khas of Lower Laos have remained perfectly peaceful ever since their 1901 escapade was suppressed. They have even tended imperceptibly to come out of their fierce isolation as new means of communication have connected their villages, which only yesterday were hidden in the brush, with the vast network of roads now under construction which will soon open up the Laotian hinterland (1). 563 669

1. The question of the Indo-Chinese "Moi hinterland"

642
631

have any elected councils or parliamentary representation. Today it constitutes one of the five states in the Indo-Chinese union.

631

A consequence of the unification of Laos was its division into provinces and the incorporation of its officials, who had heretofore been a staff apart, in the ranks of the Indo-China Civil Service.

The government commissioners have therefore become civil service administrators.

635.

Today each of the fourteen provinces of Laos is placed under the authority of an Administrator, and the latter is seconded by a civil service clerk.

701

Native guard. In Laos there are no detachments of the troops stationed in Indo-China, but only a native civil guard [278] composed partly of Annamites and partly of Laotians. It constitutes a police force which is distributed in detachments of varying size under the command of inspectors and chief guardsmen. It is entirely at the disposition of the administrators who are heads of provinces. This native guard numbers twenty-seven inspectors and chief guardsmen and 850 men, of which 320 are volunteer Annamite enlisted men recruited in Annam and Tonkin, and 530 are natives recruited from all the races of Laos. It may be called on to lend its support, if the need arise, to the native authorities who are responsible for maintaining order and security in their respective territories. Peace and order are so perfect in Laos, however, that one can go about freely without an escort.

652

The treasury service. The treasury service in Laos is headed by a bursar who holds the title of "Chief Bursar of the Treasury Service in Laos." He handles all matters dealing with receipts, expenditures and treasury operations in Laos in the same forms and according to the same rules as the other bursars who are heads of services in Indo-China.

He is assisted by a deputy bursar.

These two agents reside in Vien-Tiane.

744

Medical service. This service includes three colonial physicians on detachment in Laos who are in charge of the infirmaries at Luang-Prabang, Vien-Tiane (formerly at Pak-Hin-Boun) and Khong. They care for all sick persons, whether European or native, as has been noted above (1).

(1) See Chapter III, Health Service.

647 or one official or agent of the public force for every 6,528 inhabitants (2). The cost for salaries and accessory items for the same personnel

(2) In Cochinchina there is one official for every 1,659 inhabitants.

force is 609,000 francs.

[286] 2. ADMINISTRATIVE DIVISIONS

635 Laos contains fourteen circumscriptions, to wit:

The province of	Muong-Hou,	capital at	Muong-Hou-Neua.
" "	" Vien-Poukha (1),	" "	Muong-Sing

(1) This province is sometimes called "Western Upper Laos."

" "	" Hua-Pahn,	" "	Muong-Son.
" "	" Luang-Prabang,	" "	Luang-Prabang.
" "	" Tran-Ninh,	" "	Xieng-Khouang.
" "	" Vien-Tiane,	" "	Vien-Tiane (seat of the Superior Residency, capital of French Laos).
" "	" Cammon,	" "	Pak-Hin-Boun.
" "	" Song-Khone,	" "	Savannakhet.
" "	" Saravane,	" "	Saravane.
" "	" Ban-Mouang,	" "	Ban-Mouang.
" "	" Attopeu,	" "	Attopeu.
" "	" Khong,	" "	Khong.
" "	" Stung-Treng,	" "	Stung-Treng.
" "	" Darlac,	" "	Darlac.

The following tables give useful information on each of these provinces.

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PROVINCE OF MUONG-HOU

Area: 4,500 square kilometers

Population: 4 Europeans, 8,000 natives.

Population density per 100 square kilometers: 187

Administrative Divisions

Muongs	Number of villages	Registered inhabitants
Hou-Neua	49	1,362 (?)
Hou-Tai	35	

Muong-Hou-Neua (capital)

Distance from Vien-Tiane by way of Luang-Prabang: 766 kilometers.

Population:

4 Europeans, 250 natives.

Post occupied by the Native Guard:

Muong-Hou-Neua.....1 chief guardsman.

Postal and Telegraph service:

Muong-Hou-Neua.....Complete office.

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Laotians AM8

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PROVINCE OF VIEN-POUKHA

Area: 13,000 square kilometers.

Population: 6 Europeans, 23,986 natives.

Population density per 100 square kilometers: 167

Administrative Divisions

Muongs	Number of Villages	Registered inhabitants
Vien-Poukha Xieng-Khong Xieng-Sene Luong-Nam-Tha Mugne Sing	524	10296

Muong-Sing (capital).

Distance from Vien-Tiane by way of Xieng-Khong and Luang-Prabang: 876 (?) kilometers.

Population:

3 Europeans, (?) natives.

Posts occupied by the Native Guard:

Muong-Sing..... 1 chief guardsman.
Xieng-Khong: 1 chief guardsman performing the functions of commercial agent.

Postal and Telegraph service:

Vien-Poukha
Muong-Sing
Xieng-Khong
} Complete offices.

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631
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[289] PROVINCE OF THE HUA-PAHN-HA-TANG-HOC

Area: 8,000 square kilometers.

Population: 3 Europeans, 15,000 natives.

Population density per 100 square kilometers: 188

Administrative Divisions

Muongs	Number of villages	Registered inhabitants
Son	78	4,800 (?)
Xieng-Kho	139	
Het	49	
Hua-Muong	83	

Muong-Son (capital)

Distance from Vien-Tiane by way of Luang-Prabang: 744 kilometers.

Population:

3 Europeans, 228 natives.

Post occupied by the Native Guard:

Muong-Son.....1 chief guardsman.

Postal and Telegraph service:

none.

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[290] PROVINCE OF LUANG-PRABANG

(right and left banks)

Area: 73,750 square kilometers

Population: 13 Europeans, including 1 merchant; 121,900 natives
(67,500 on the left bank)

Population density per 100 square kilometers: 165

Administrative Divisions

Muongs	Number of villages	Registered persons
Luang-Prabang	108	
Pak-Hou	145	
Houng-Sa	27	
Pak-Ta	297	
Sagabouri	76	
[illegible]uthai-Thani-Si-Pak-Lay	114	29,494
Houng-Sieng-Houne	224	
Sai	206	
Ngoi	222	
Pak-Seng	206	
Xieng-Ngeun	108	
Khassy	59	

149: Reinach--206 G-3 (no date) 1901 AM1 Indochina
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[291] PROVINCE OF TRAN-NINH

Area: 20,000 square kilometers.

Population: 5 Europeans, including 2 merchants; 35,000 natives.

Population density per 100 square kilometers: 175.

Administrative Divisions

Muongs	Number of Villages	Registered persons
Khat	34	
Kham	209	
Khang	25	
Soui	110	8,000
Sen	67	
Khouang	220	
Mok	35	

Xieng-Khouang (capital)

Distance from Vien-Tiane by way of Tonakhome: 240 (?) kilometers.

Populations:

5 Europeans, 150 natives.

Post occupied by the Native Guard:

Xieng-Khouang.....1 chief guardsman.

Postal and Telegraph services:

Post.

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PROVINCE OF VIEN-TIANE

Area: 20,000 square kilometers.

Population: 22 Europeans including 4 merchants; 50,000 natives.

Population density per 100 square kilometers: 205

Administrative Divisions

Muongs	Number of villages	Registered persons
Vien-Tiane	222	11,500 (?)
Pat-Choum	54	
Borikane	41	
Tourakhome	185	

Vien-Tiane (capital).

Seat of the Superior Residency

Population:

21 Europeans, 2,700 natives.

Post occupied by the Native Guard:

Vien-Tiane..... 1 inspector, 1 chief guardsman.

Postal and Telegraph service:

Vien-Tiane..... Complete office.
Pat-Choum..... Secondary office.

Health service:

[743]

1 infirmary with 1 colonial physician.

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Treasury:

1 bursar, head of the service and 1 deputy bursar.

Religion:

1 Christian community at Pak-Sane with 1 missionary. [797]

Laotian Fleet:

Launch "Ham-Luong" with 1 European engineer.

Cochinchina River Merchant Fleet:

Agency at Vien-Tiane with 1 European agent.

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162

PROVINCE OF CAMMON

Area: 30,000 square kilometers.

Population: 8 Europeans including 1 merchant, 30,000 natives.

Population density per 100 square kilometers: 100.

Administrative Divisions:

Muongs	Number of villages		Registered persons	
	Laotians	Pacified Khas	Laotians	Pacified Khas
Tha-Khek	113		1,480	
Pak-Hin-Boun	94		1,271	
Mahasay	200		1,262	
Kham-Keut	63		665	
Cammon	48		702	

Pak-Hin-Boun (capital)

Distance from Vien-Tiane: 348 kilometers.

Population: 4 Europeans, 250 natives.

Posts occupied by the Native Guard:

Pak-Hin-Boun.....1 chief guardsman.
Nape.....1 inspector.

Postal and Telegraph services:

Pak-Hin-Boun.....Secondary office.

Religion:

1 seminary at Don-Done
1 director.
2 missionaries.

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[294] PROVINCE OF SONG-KHONE

Area: 21,000 square kilometers.

Population: 16 Europeans, 45,000 natives.

Population density per 100 square kilometers: 214.

Administrative Divisions

Muongs	Number of villages		Registered persons	
	Laotians	Pacified Khas	Laotians	Pacified Khas
Khantabuli (Kong-Savannakhet and Sapang-Tong	130		2,914	
Champone(Muong-Sanumane)	119		2,856	
Song-Khone (Muong-Lahanam)	88		1,345	
Phong	53		320	
Tchepone(Muong-Xieng-Hom)	16	34	404	463
Vang (Muong-Vang-Kham and Kong-Atsapone	42	16	584	111
Phabang	6	4	28	42
Phalane	18	31	300	358
Phin	4	13	112	86
Nong	1	8	20	80

149: Reinach--212 G-3 (no date) 1901 AM1 Indochina
Laotians AM8

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[295] PROVINCE OF SARAVANE

Area: 12,000 square kilometers.

Population: 3 Europeans, 30,000 natives.

Population density per 100 square kilometers: 250

Administrative Divisions

Muongs	Number of villages		Registered persons	
	Laotians	Pacified Khas	Laotians	Pacified Khas
Khamthong-Niai	63	56	1,050	770
Kong	15		483	
Saphat	13	5	250	57
Smia	5	2	135	54
Wapy	34	16	693	201
Southabali	11	18	150	160
Saravane	48	100	1,315	1,364
Khamthong-Noi	14	3	225	57
Lakhone-Peng	5		92	

Saravane (capital)

Distance from Vien-Tiane:
1. by land as far as Savannakhet by way of Muong-Kong, 728 kilometers
2. by river via Pak-Se-Done, 895 kilometers.

Population: 3 Europeans, 650 natives.

Post occupied by the Native Guard:

Saravane.....1 chief guardsman

Postal and Telegraph service:

Saravane, Kamthong-Niai.....Secondary offices.

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Laotians AM8

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[296]

PROVINCE OF BAN- MOUANG

Area: 6, 000 square kilometers.

Population: 7 Europeans including 2 merchants, 36, 000 natives.

Population density per 100 square kilometers: 600.

Administrative Divisions

Muongs	Number of villages		Registered persons	
	Laotians	Pacified Khas	Laotians	Pacified Khas
Fiafay	43	51	1, 816	854
Pak-Sedone	47	71	1, 978	1, 114
Sa-Phai	20	5	1, 082	67
Souvannakhili	11		405	

Ban-Mouang (capital)

Distance from Vien-Tiane: 760 kilometers.

Population: 4 Europeans, 350 natives.

Post occupied by the native guard:

Ban-Mouang.....1 chief guardsman.

Postal and Telegraph service:

Ban-Mouang.....Complete office.

Cochinchina River Merchant Fleet:

Agency at Don-Kho with 1 European agent.

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Laotians AM8

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[297] PROVINCE OF ATTOPEU

Area: 18, 000 square kilometers.

Population: 11 Europeans, 64, 600 natives.

Population density per 100 square kilometers: 360.

Administrative Divisions

Muong	Number of villages		Registered persons	
	Laotians	Pacified Khas	Laotians	Pacified Khas
Attopeu	28	59	1, 300	1, 956

Attopeu (capital)

Distance from Vien-Tiane by way of Fiafay: 927 kilometers.

Population:

3 Europeans, 900 natives.

Post occupied by the Native Guard:

Attopeu.....1 chief guardsman.

Postal and Telegraph service:

Attopeu.....secondary office.

Religion:

Catholic mission of the Bahnars.

1 provicar superior, 7 missionaries, 7 Christian communities.

Kon-Toum, Kon-Money, Kon-Ketou, Kon-Xabang, Kon-Ngo, Kon-Trang, Ro-Hay.

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631
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[298]

PROVINCE OF KH[illegible]ONG

Area: 3,000 square ki[illegible]lometers.

Population: 14 Europeans, 26,800 natives.

Population density per 100 sq[illegible]uare kilometers: 900 (?)

Administrative Di[illegible]visions

Muongs	Number of villages		Registered persons	
	Laotians	Pacified Khas	Laotians	Pacified Khas
Khong	76	13	4,323	147
Siempang	19	24	540	392

Khong (capital)

Distance from Vien-Tiane: 862 kilometers.

Population: 7 Europeans, [illegible]00 natives.

Administrative post at Khone: 1 deleg[illegible]ate of the commissioner.

Posts occupied by the Nat[illegible]ive Guard:

Khong
Khone } 1 chief guardsman.

Postal and Telegraph se[illegible]rvice:

Khong.....Co[illegible]mplete office.
Khone.....Sec[illegible]ondary office.

Health service: 1 infirmary at Khong [illegible]with 1 colonial physician.

Laotian Fleet: Launch "Haiphong" wi[illegible]th 1 European engineer.

Cochinchina River Merchant Fleet: A[illegible]gency at Khone with 3 European agents.

Steam launch: "Garcerie" at Ban D[illegible]ong with 3 Europeans.

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Laotians AM8

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[299] PROVINCE OF STUNG-TRENG

Area: 20,000 square kilometers.

Population: 9 Europeans including 2 merchants, 60,000 natives.

Population density per 100 square kilometers: 300.

Administrative Divisions

Muongs	Number of villages		Registered persons	
	Laotians	Pacified Khas	Laotians	Pacified Khas
Stung-Treng	61	114	1,441	3,201

Stung-Treng (capital)

Distance from Vien-Tiane: 942 kilometers.

Population: 9 Europeans, 1,500 natives.

Posts occupied by the Native Guard:

Stung-Treng
Ban-Phi } 1 chief guardsman.

Postal and Telegraph service:

Stung-Treng.....Complete office.

Laotian Fleet: Launch "Argus".

Cochinchina River Merchant Fleet:

Agency at Stung-Treng with 1 European agent.

Launches: "Cygne", "Mouette".

[300] PROVINCE OF DARLAC

635
631
162

Area: 10,500 square kilometers.

Population: 4 Europeans, 25,200 natives.

Population density per 100 square kilometers: 250 (?).

Administrative Divisions

Muongs	Number of villages		Registered persons	
	Laotians	Pacified Khas	Laotians	Pacified Khas
Darlac	1	98	60	6,000

Darlac (capital).

Distance from Vien-Tiane by way of Stung-Treng: 1,282 (?) kilometers.

Population: 3 Europeans, (?) natives.

Posts occupied by the Native Guard:

Ban-Don.....1 chief guardsman.

Darlac.....1 chief guardsman.

Postal and Telegraph service:

None.

644 The functionaries responsible for minor duties inside the palace, under the orders of their chief the Maha-Monti, are the:

Maha-Nosit, Lasa-Nosit, Lasa-Mat, Sanet, Sakame-Nane, Latsavat, Out-Thamonti, Sene-Thong-Niot, Sathipavot.

[652] [493] The treasurers, storekeepers and palace guards have the 647 titles of:

Phaya-Vi-Sai-Monthiene, Phone-Seuk-Khoua, Phone-Seuk-Sai.

697 Finally the jailers and scourgers (or executioners) under the command of the king or of the head of the justice department:

Phone-Tesak, Sa-Phakdi, Sa-Dab-Khame, Vong-Phouthone.

635 In the provinces, the head of a muong bears a title which is 631 personal to him, "Phaya" or "Phya," to which he adds that of "Tiao-Muong" and the name of the province, as Phaya-Si-Vorarat-Phrak-Di, Tiao-Muong-Vien-Tiane.

Under his command he has principal mandarins in the number of three, who bear the titles of "Oupahat," "Latsavong" and "Latsaboute." Each of them is generally responsible for the administration of one part of the muong, under the supervision of the "Tiao-Muong."

These high officials are seconded, depending on the importance of the muong, by a larger or smaller number of counselors or judges who bear the titles of "Sen," "Tiane," "Khang," etc.

Muongs are generally divided into cantons, and the heads of the [623] latter bear the title of "Taseng." Each canton includes several villages or "Bans," and each of these has at its head a mayor who is usually called "Pho-Ban" (the father of the village). The head of a village is aided by a kind of council or assembly of notables, the titles of whom are "Pia," "Luong," "Koun," "Sen," "Mune" or "Nai."

643 The four principal leaders of a muong, that is to say the "Tiao-646 Muong," the "Oupahat," the "Latsavong" and the "Latsaboute" (1),

(1) In the Hua-Pahn-Ha-Tang-Hoc, the heads of muongs bear the following titles: "Phaya" (Tiao-Muong), "Phya-Hua-Pahn" (Oupahat), "Phya-Balat" (Latsavong), "Phya-Kam" (Latsaboute). In accordance with custom, these offices are hereditary and sons succeed their fathers, except for the office of "Phaya" (Tiao-Muong) where the rule is not absolute.

are [494] elected either by the nobles or by commoners who possess certain aptitudes and sufficient intellectual culture. The whole population, nobles, officials and common people, are consulted. Then the

643 canton heads and heads of villages, who might be described as cantonal and municipal delegates, gather in the capital of the muong to
646 vote on the names of candidates which are presented. The name of the one who obtains the most votes is then presented by the province administrator to the superior resident, who accepts or rejects him after studying his personal qualities, his aptitudes, his background, etc. In the case of a rejection the electors are consulted a second time. The superior resident names the four chiefs of muongs by delegation from the governor general. These latter may not begin office until they receive their commission, insignia and seal from the French government.

In general, the electors' choice falls on a son, brother or nephew of the high official who is to be replaced, unless he is unworthy or notoriously incapable.

635 Mandarins of lesser importance are named by the province head
647 with the approval of the persons under his administration and of the superior resident.

647 Officials receive a salary only in the kingdom of Luang-Prabang
652 and in the provinces of Vien-Tiane and Muong-Hou. Everywhere else they must be content with a fee equivalent to one-tenth of the sums they collect as taxes.

693 In their capacity as judges, the muong authorities also collect legal costs and shares in the sums of certain fines, as is the custom of the land.

647 Such, in its general outline, is the organization of the Laotian
576 administration. It generally functions well, is sufficient to the needs of the natives and makes it possible for us, despite the vast extent of our possession, to keep only a few European officials there.

192 The outer forms of respect towards great men, mandarins and anyone who holds a rank are dictated by Laotian etiquette, as in Siam. One does not speak to a king, a [495] [Illustration] [496] [Blank page] [497] prince or a leader as one would to an equal or an inferior. There are special expressions which are peculiar to the representatives of certain social classes or to the holders of dignities. But even while it conserves, at bottom, the ritual ceremonial forms, Laotian etiquette is paternal and much more spontaneous and genuinely respectful than elsewhere.

When they speak to the king, to princes, to great men, etc., inferiors prostrate themselves, with forehead on clasped hands, near the ground, or with their hands clasped above their head. Outside of this particular case, those present may remain squatting, smoke, talk, laugh and even disturb the audience somewhat. Moreover, no lack

Whatsoever of respect is to be seen
in this liberty.